

SENATE BILL 2132

By Johnson

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49,  
Chapter 6, Part 10 and Title 49, Chapter 6, Part  
12, relative to social studies.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-6-1202(a)(1), is amended by deleting the subdivision in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

(1)

(A) Every public high school shall require every student to have at least one (1) year of instruction in American history and government.

(B) A semester of instruction devoted to the founding principles of the United States shall also be required. This semester course shall include at least the following:

(i) The creator-endowed inalienable rights of the people;

(ii) The structure of government including separation of powers with checks and balances;

(iii) Frequent and free elections in a representative government;

(iv) The rule of law;

(v) Equal justice under the law;

(vi) Private property rights;

(vii) Federalism;

(viii) Due process;

(ix) Individual rights as set forth in the Bill of Rights; and

(x) Individual responsibility.

(C) The state board of education shall adopt curriculum standards for the semester course under subdivision (B).

(D) The semester course under subdivision (B) shall be required for all students entering high school in the 2014-2015 school year and school years thereafter. A passing grade in the course shall be required for graduation from high school.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.